

Good afternoon, my name is Brielle Liverman I am a senior at Hopewell Valley Central High School and a second year student at Mercer county vocational school- Sypek center. The Program that I am pursuing is Business Systems Technology. This class gives me the opportunity to learn and work in a business office environment. The first year I learned how to use Microsoft Word, Power Point, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Publisher, and Microsoft Access. In depth, my teacher went over how to use all these programs. This is something that would have taken two years or longer to do in my regular home school. Now that we are second year students we can go on Co-Op, learn application integration and do something called IBPF, which stands for International Business Practice Firm. This is a company that lets us students create a company from scratch along with real world business partners. We decide what type of business we want and engage in the things that a running business does. In doing this we get college credits from Mercer County Community College. In all we learn team work, time management, office procedures and etiquette. At the end of this year I have to pass Microsoft Office Specialist exam in order to graduate I will then be certified in Microsoft Office. I want to work in a office environment when I get older and be able to have great computer skills. This class helps me to prepare for that. I heard about Vo-tech through my guidance consular. I was trying to figure out what classes would help me prepare for the major I wanted to take in college and for my career. I was instantly hooked when he told me about the school and when I read the brief summary of Business Tech. I was really excited and couldn't wait to experience something new. The thing that stuck out the most to me about Vo-tech is your ability to be in a class for a half day doing something you



love and to get rewarded and recognized for it. I think I made a great decision and it has shown. I was on honor roll all last year. The first time in my life where I got straight A's the whole year. Every time the bell rang for us to go on our buses back to home school I didn't want to go. I wish that I could go to school all day there instead of my home school. We get to meet a diverse group of students and learn new things about other shops in the school. We all help each other out. For example someone in Cosmetology class needs their car fixed someone from auto tech will fix it. If someone from culinary needs help writing a menu, someone from business systems technology will help them out. I believe that's something I couldn't do in my regular home school. It's not always easy going to two schools a day. I have the four classes I have to take before I get to Vo-tech and I'm always in a rush to get to my bus because I don't have a lunch. So I have to balance my time evenly or I'll end up missing my bus. If I had a regular full day of school I would have three electives but I don't, instead I have my mandatory classes none of them I can choose. If we had to take another required class to attend Vo-tech a lot of students wouldn't be able to get in. Going to a vocational school gives some kids a reason to wake up in the morning and gives them a reason to want to go to school. I know for me at times before I went to Vo-tech I wasn't that big on school but now I have something to look forward to in my day. On top of that I know I am capable of making good grades in school and making the honor roll because I achieved that in Vo-tech. everything I learn in vocational school will give me a head start compared to other people applying for the same job. Thank you for your time.